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From Saturday December 31. to Tuesday January 3. 1726.

Madrid, December 23, N. S.

ON the 19th Instant being his Catholick Majesty's Birth-Day, when he entered into his 47th Year, all the Grandees and Nobility appeared at Court, and had the Honour to kiss their Catholick Majesties Hands. The Troops that are assembling in Andalusia having lost a great many Men on their Marches by Desertion and Sickness, Orders have been given to supply them with Recruits out of the Men that are levying in all the Provinces of Spain, by pressing every fifth Man (which is a Method formerly made use of in the last Extremity;) the said Troops are all to be at their Rendezvous in the Neighbourhood of Gibraltar, and to be reviewed in the Beginning of January next. It is now no longer doubted of the Designs being formed to besiege that Place in a few Weeks by the great and expensive Preparations that are making, fit for such an Enterprize, which as is computed will cost 3000000 Pieces of Eight. 120 battering Cannon and a proportionable Quantity of Cannon-Ball have been ordered forthwith to Algezira, as also eight Engineers, and a good Number of Miners and Bombardiers. Lieutenant-General Verboom the chief Engineer, set out Yesterday for Andalusia, and most of the General Officers are also gone, some to Algezira, and others to San Roque. The late Duke of Ormond continues to have frequent Audiences of their Catholick Majesties, as also Conferences with Count Conigseck, the Marquess de la Paz, and Don Joseph Patinno, from which the Jacobites here conceive great Hopes that Matters will soon be concerted for an Enterprize in Favour of the Pretender. The late Lord Marishal, who intented to go to the Army in Andalusia, has suspened his Journey.

War-Office, Dec. 22, 1726.

Whereas the General Officers of the Army to whom the Examination of the Reduced Officers of the Land-Forces and Marines upon Half Pay in Great-Britain was referred by His Majesty, have in their Report to Him, among other Things, proposed the following Rules, viz.

" That every Reduced Officer on Half-Pay " in Great-Britain, shall for the future write to " the Secretary at War for the Time being, " twice every Year, viz. in the Months of Ja- " nuary and July, declaring he is the same Offi- " cer who was approved of in the last Exami- " nation, and no otherwise provided than by " His Majesty's Half-Pay; which Letter must be " signed by the said Officer, mentioning there- " in the Regiment to which he did belong.

" And also, that no Reduced Officer on " the British Establishment of Half-Pay shall " presume for the future to go out of any of " His Majesty's Dominions into foreign Coun- " tries without a particular Leave of Absence.

These are therefore by His Majesty's special Command, to direct and require all Persons concerned herein, to conform themselves to the said Rules, as they shall answer the same at their Peril.

H. Pelham.

Whitehall, Dec. 30, 1726.

Whereas several Private Men have deserted from the Three Regiments of Foot commanded by Colonel Newton, Colonel Desney, and Colonel Anstruther, when they were ordered on board His Majesty's Ships at Portsmouth: His Majesty is graciously pleased to pardon all such of those Deserters who shall surrender themselves to the Marshal of the Savoy on or before the 12th Day of the next Month, and Officers are appointed to subsist and conduct them to Gibraltar to their respective Regiments: But in Case they do not surrender themselves by the Time, and at the Place above-mentioned, they will (when apprehended) be prosecuted with the utmost Severity. By His Majesty's Command.

H. Pelham.

The Court of Directors of the Royal Academy of Musick have appointed a Call of 5 l. per Cent. which is the 16th Call, to be made payable on all the Subscribers to the said Royal Academy on or before the 18th Instant: Notice is hereby given, that the Deputy-Treasurer will attend on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the 16th, 17th, and 18th Instant, at the Office in the Hay-Market, from Nine a-Clock in the Morning till Two in the Afternoon, in order to receive the same.

Advertisements.

TO be Sold, the Mannor of St. John Baptist, near Colerain in Ireland, with the Demesnes and other Lands and Appurtenances, subject to a Rent Charge of 150 l. per Annum. Further Information to be had, and Proposals to be left with Mr. George North, Clerk to the Company of Merchant-Taylors, at their Hall, near the Royal Exchange, London: Where a Committee will sit on the 9th of March next, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, in order to dispose thereof.

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